

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

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Q1 [0018] In the illustrated embodiment, the data stream 78 has a non-customizable portion 80 and a user customizable portion 82. The non-customizable portion 80 contains data that generally is not altered by a user. For example, a portion 84 of the data stream 78 contains a reference identifier to identify the specific RF tag that is providing the data stream 78. In this embodiment, a second portion 86 of the non-customizable portion 80 of the data stream 78 indicates whether or not the battery is low. Additional non-customizable data also may be transmitted. The number and types of data found in the non-customizable portion may vary for a number of reasons, such as the asset being monitored and the needs of the user. In this embodiment, a first portion 88 of the user customizable portion 82 indicates the number of user customizable parameters that are to be provided by the data stream 78. This enables the system to know what portion of the data stream has useful information and what portion has unutilized bits. In the illustrated embodiment, data from the asset (e.g. presence or status) is monitored and processed at periodic intervals. A second portion 90 of user customizable data 82 represents the interval at which data is monitored and processed. A third portion 92 represents a running total of the data. In this embodiment, the fourth portion 94 and fifth portion 96 represent the interval and the running total for a second asset operating parameter. The sixth portion 98 and seventh portions 100 represent the interval and the running total for a third asset operating parameter.

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